

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A syringe comprising:
an outer tube;
a gasket slidable in said outer tube;
a sealing film for sealing the base end opening of said outer tube;
a pusher for operating said gasket to move in the longitudinal direction of said outer tube, said pusher being provided at a tip end portion thereof with a rupture portion for rupturing said sealing film; and

a support member having a hollow cylindrical portion for supporting said pusher generally coaxially with said outer tube on the base end side of said sealing film; wherein

said pusher is supported by said support member before use and, at the time of use, said pusher is moved in the tip end direction relative to said outer tube, thereby causing said rupture portion to rupture and unseal said sealing film.

2. (Original) A syringe as set forth in claim 1, wherein said rupture portion is in the shape of a sharp projection.

3. (Previously Presented) A syringe as set forth in claim 1, wherein said pusher comprises a connection portion for connection with said gasket so that said pusher is connectable with said gasket.

4. (Previously Presented) A syringe as set forth in claim 1, wherein the inside of said outer tube is in a decompressed state before use.

5. (Previously Presented) A syringe as set forth in claim 1, wherein the inside of said outer tube is in a sterilized state before use.

6. (Previously Presented) A syringe as set forth in claim 1, wherein a medical agent is preliminarily contained in the space defined by said outer tube and said gasket.

7. (Previously Presented) A syringe as set forth in claim 1, wherein said pusher comprises an extension-contraction mechanism for making the whole length thereof extensible and contractible.

8. (Previously Presented) A syringe as set forth in claim 1, wherein a movement preventive member for preventing said pusher from moving in the tip end direction is removably provided on the base end side of said sealing film.

9. (New) A syringe as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a lock for locking the pusher to the support member before use.

10. (New) A syringe as set forth in claim 9, wherein the lock, in a locked position, prevents the pusher from moving in the longitudinal direction relative to the support member.

11. (New) A syringe as set forth in claim 10, wherein the lock is released from the locked position by rotating the pusher relative to the support member in a first direction.

12. (New) A syringe as set forth in claim 11, wherein the lock prevents rotation of the pusher relative to the support member in a second direction that is opposite to the first direction.

13. (New) A syringe as set forth in claim 1, wherein the outer tube includes an annular relief portion adjacent the base end opening into which the sealing film is inserted by the pusher after rupture of the sealing film.